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(71) **Applicant (for all designated States except US): BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY [GB/GB]; 81 Newgate Street, Greater Lon-**

(72) Inventors; and  
(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **AUFENAST, David** [GB/GB]; Wayside Bawdsey, Suffolk IP12 3AN (GB). **FLETCHER, Mark, Andrew** [GB/GB]; 1 Mayfields, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 3TU (GB). **HOY, Michael, Davey** [GB/GB]; 36 Penhurst Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 8QY (GB)

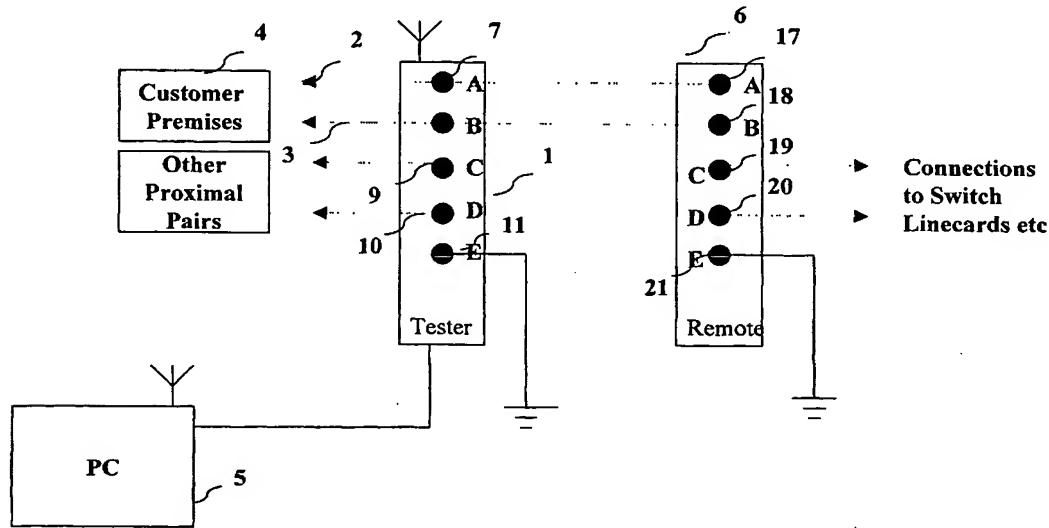
(74) **Agent:** BRADLEY, David, William; BT Group Legal Intellectual Property Department, PPC5A, BT Centre, 81 Newgate Street, Greater London EC1A 7AJ (GB).

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[Continued on next page]

**(54) Title: LINE TESTING APPARATUS AND METHOD**



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**(57) Abstract:** The line test apparatus includes a PC (5) which stores known line test signature parameters for a number of known fault conditions in which by application of varying signals to a line pair (2,3) under test and capturing parameters during a period in which varying signals are applied to the line via a test head (1), an estimate of the state of the line can be made. A remote unit (6) located at a switch or exchange may also be used to complete the automated scanning of parameters of a line in response to various electrical stimuli. The invention is particularly effective at determining faults which are "dynamic" as well as those which are permanent until repaired.

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## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 699 402 A (BAUER FRANK R ET AL) 16 December 1997 (1997-12-16) cited in the application column 3, line 31 - line 38 column 3, line 57 - line 65 column 4, line 61 - column 5, line 3 column 6, line 45 - column 7, line 5 column 13, line 6 - line 10 column 28, line 15 - line 22 column 28, line 35 - line 39 column 28, line 60 - column 29, line 3 ----- -/-	1-7
Y		8-12

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
 NL 2280 HV Rijswijk  
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Schweitz, M

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	GB 2 327 553 A (PORTA SYSTEMS CORP) 27 January 1999 (1999-01-27) page 7, line 18 - line 33 -----	1-12
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